



# LAKESHIA MYERS

Wisconsin State Representative • 12th Assembly District

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## **Representative LaKeshia Myers Introduces Legislation to Waive the Foundations of Reading Test during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

MADISON – Representative LaKeshia Myers (D-Milwaukee) introduced legislation today that would waive the Foundations of Reading Test (FoRT) requirement during the pandemic for teachers of grades kindergarten to fifth grade. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic teacher education candidates have been in limbo due to the closure of testing centers and wait time. Currently, a number of teacher education candidates in Wisconsin who have completed all requirements to earn a license except the FoRT and they have been unable to obtain their initial teaching license because they have been unable to complete the FoRT requirement.

“Waiving the Foundations of Reading Test requirement during this health emergency makes good sense. As our need for certified educators continues to grow, we must not forget that teachers are front line workers. Having an adequate number of classroom teachers is essential as school districts discuss their plans to reopen schools using a full or hybrid model. As policymakers, we should not hamper those that want to serve our students and the FoRT, because it is required by statute, is something the legislature must handle. It is time to stop political posturing and make inroads to deal with ‘COVID cards’ we’ve been dealt and waiving the FoRT Test for teachers would do just that,” Representative Myers said.

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